

FREE

Summer 2025

SOULITUDE

FAITH WALK DEVOTIONAL

LAKESIDE CHAUTAUQUA, OHIO

move/observe/pray/reflect





*Entering Lakeside is an invitation to shed the stresses and distractions of the world beyond the gates and to embark on a healing journey of discovery and recovery. The Spirit blowing among the waves, trees, birds, bricks, paths, and people calls you (and those you love who may have joined you) to **MOVE** throughout Lakeside, take a moment to **OBSERVE**—truly inhale through all your senses—the beauty of your surroundings, perhaps whisper a **PRAYER**, and then exhale into a space of **REFLECTION**.*

SOULITUDE: Faith Walk Devotional is offered to you by Lakeside's Department of Religious Life as an opportunity for immersive, soul-level regeneration to take root.

Our prayer is that your stay here at Lakeside will truly be freeing, joyful, and life-giving. If we can be of pastoral assistance to you during your time here, please do not hesitate to reach out via text (713-568-5697)

Thank you for choosing Lakeside as your summer get-away location.



*Blessings, Rev. Kimberly C. Orr,
Director of Religious Life, and General Editor of SOULITUDE*

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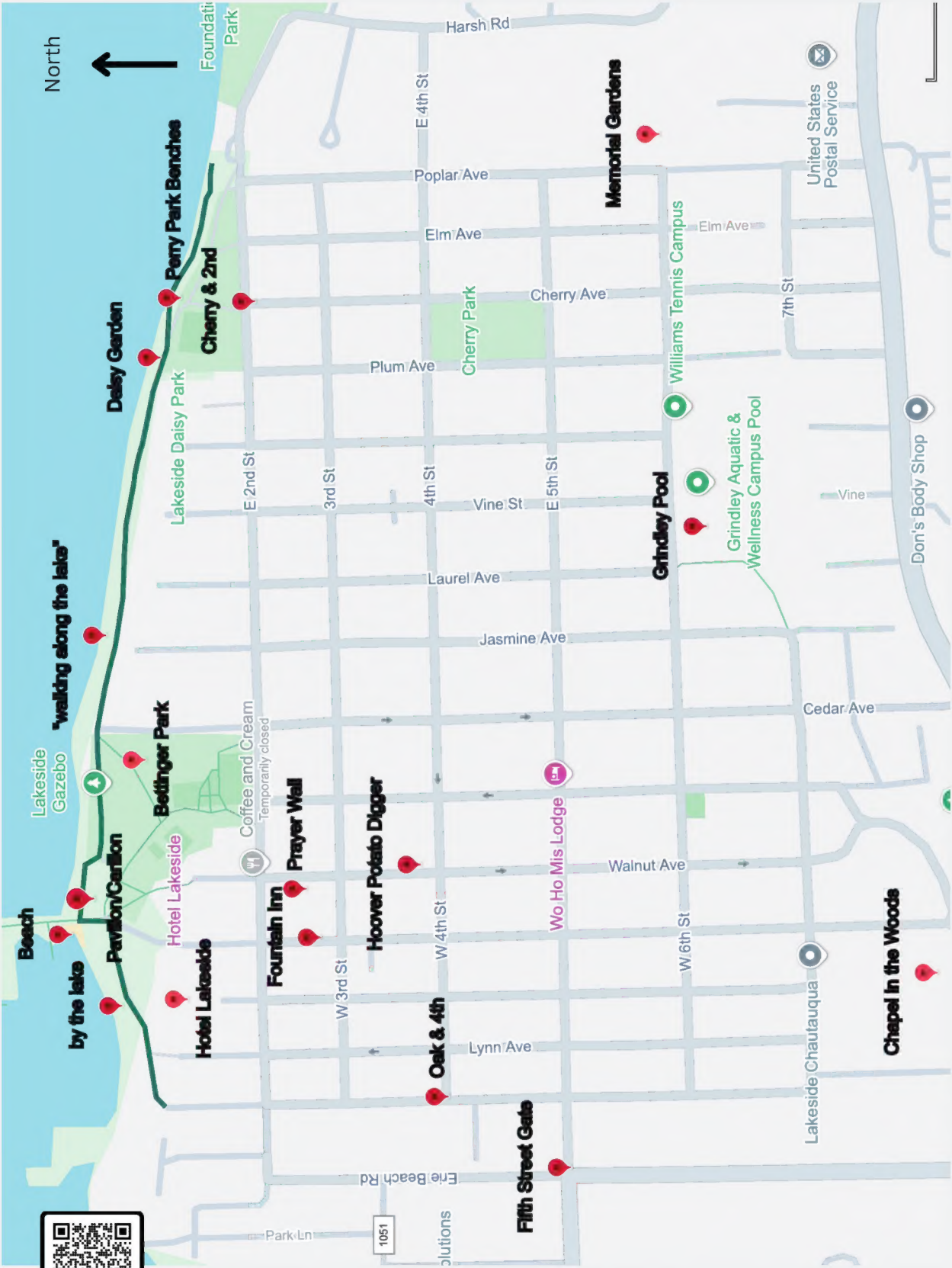
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*“Heaven and earth, the Celtic saying goes, are only three feet apart, but in **thin places** that distance is even shorter. They are places that make us feel something larger than ourselves, as though we are held in a place between worlds, beyond experience.”*

*(From **Thin Places**, by Kerri ní Dochartaigh)*



“Google Earth” mobile map: <https://bit.ly/LSKDMAP>

GATE AWAKENING

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. (Psalm 118:1-20)



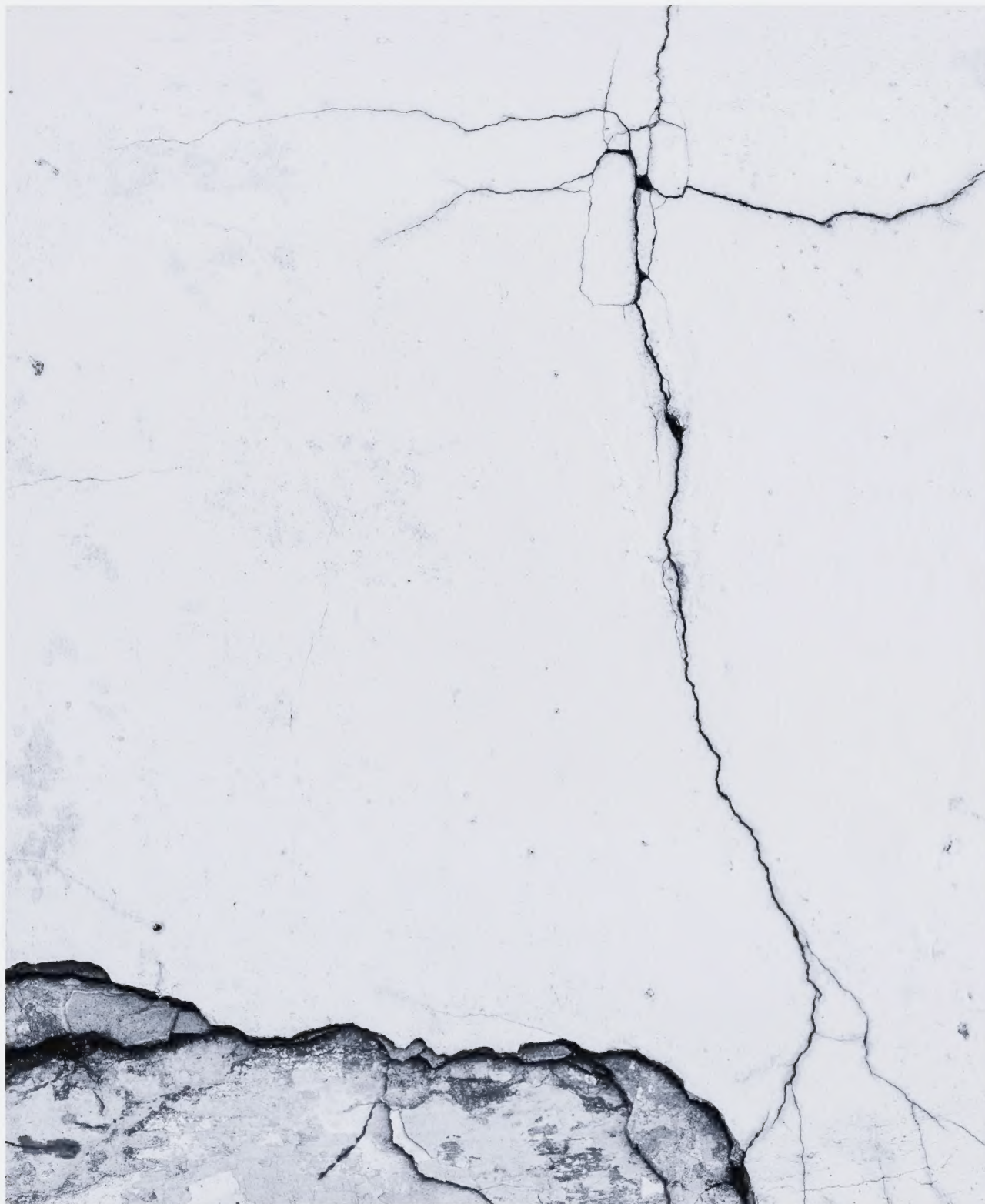
THE FIFTH STREET GATE is a threshold. For those who pass through it, there is an implicit invitation to pause, to push back against the tyranny of the urgent, and step into a place that is set apart.

But "set apart" does not mean "perfect." Even within Lakeside, you may find it challenging to get a parking place, sidestep the "spoils" of passing birds on the dock, notice cracks in aging buildings, or catch the whiff of gossip. Yet, within these borders, there is still a holy intentionality--a quiet, persistent effort to tend to the life of the Spirit. This is where people dare to think deeply, speak honestly, rest fully, and allow beauty, worship, and wonder to do their slow, redemptive work.

If we think back to the biblical world, city gates and walls often crumbled and took intentional effort to rebuild and maintain. These ancient gates were not simply openings for passing traffic. They were places of justice, where the wisdom of the elders gathered, equity was treasured, hearts were heard, and communities were shaped.

Perhaps the Fifth Street Gate can stand today as a sigil. A place where we choose--despite the challenges of real life--to be fully present... to wake up! --to God, one another, the moment, and ourselves. Gentle Creator, we call upon your wisdom to mend our cracks and speak peace into our chaos. *(Staff)*

*Am I willing to enter into a community that strives—imperfectly—for justice, beauty, and healing?
What keeps me at the threshold?*



*"There is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in."
— Leonard Cohen, from the song "Anthem" (1992)*

SACRED MEMORIES

And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25)



I am a fourth-generation Lakesider, with a noisy fifth generation thriving among us, and my parents resting peacefully in the Memorial Garden within view of my current cottage. For me, all of Lakeside is a “thin place,” but if I had to narrow it down, the most holy ground for me is on Oak Street, between 4th and 6th streets.

Our family’s first cottage was on **OAK AT 4th**. My grandmother lived in that little unwinterized cottage all summer, and our family came and went as often as we could. Throughout the week, our grandmother made sure we took advantage of everything Lakeside had to offer. On Friday evenings, we would rush down to the 5th Street gate to wait for visiting relatives to arrive—usually our dad or aunt.

Eventually, we sold that first cottage and moved to a place on Oak Street near 6th. Our family traditions continued, and as some of us grew older, we worked at the Hotel, the Gates, and other community locations. We understood that spending the summer at the lake meant helping our grandmother, which taught us the importance of responsibility and deepened our appreciation for family values and the Lakeside community.

Those childhood summers on Oak Street have forever shaped my perceptions of family, faith, love, and community. I wouldn't trade those sacred moments for anything in the world! *(Jennifer Greco)*

*Are you able to relax and enjoy your family and all that Lakeside offers?
If not, what can you adjust to breathe it all in?*

HOOVER HARVEST

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. (Psalm 118:1-20)



Just outside the Arthur L. Hoover Auditorium stands an unexpected relic: the **HOOVER POTATO HARVESTER**. At first glance, it may seem out of place. Still, this machine, invented by Ohio engineer and Lakeside supporter Isaac Hoover (Arthur's father) in 1885, is more than a curiosity—it is a symbol of vision, grit, and legacy.

Isaac revolutionized agriculture with his mechanized harvester, making it possible to dig and sift potatoes more efficiently and support a growing population. His innovation helped sustain families and communities through economic hardship and war. Years later, following that same spirit of public service, his son turned his heart toward Lakeside, funding the completion of Hoover Auditorium—a place not for farming, but for nurturing souls.

The harvester and the hall, side by side, tell a unified story. One lifted crops from the earth; the other lifts minds and souls toward the heavens. One fed bodies; the other feeds the community with music, worship, and thought.

Jesus often spoke of fields and harvests—how God notices every seed, every act of tending. “The harvest is plentiful,” he once said, “but the laborers are few” (Luke 10:2). The harvester reminds us that to labor for the common good is a holy thing, even if from time to time the soil may be difficult to turn. May the same Spirit of innovation and grace that spurred the intellect and actions of a faithful farmer long ago flow from the auditorium in word, music, and worship to soften hearts and minds today.

(Staff)

What small, faithful acts in your life are quietly cultivating a future harvest of hope?

INN MY FATHER'S HOUSE

[Jesus said,] "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:1-3)



When I pause and look at the windows of the **FOUNTAIN INN**, I envision heaven as a huge building with many rooms. Instead of a number on the door, there will be a name on each door.

Unlike the rooms in the Fountain Inn, where we can stay only a few nights, the rooms in God's house are meant for us to live in forever! We won't need air conditioning, television, or other "essentials." God will take care of all our needs, according to his riches in glory!

(Mark Moffett)



Are we opening our hearts to God's gracious hospitality?

HIDDEN HOLY GROUND

As you also join in helping us by your prayers, so that many may give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many. (1 Corinthians 1:11)

While strolling through Lakeside seeking your own spiritual “thin place,” do you often gravitate toward the lake or wander among the trees? Explore the trails for a gentle breeze or the sounds of nature?

If I may, I would like to draw your gaze away, for just a moment, from Lakeside’s beautiful yet well-travelled natural spots, and ask you to consider a location tucked away from the wind and waves, and often overlooked amidst the bustle of summer activities. It measures a mere 28 by 34 inches, and is surrounded by windows, doors, and stucco; yet, it offers the adventurous pilgrim opportunities to be blessed and to become a blessing to others.

I invite you to meander down to **the PRAYER BOARD on the Administration Building’s north wall**. God will meet you there. It is filled with the numerous needs of precious souls that you may have never met:

Those seeking wisdom for crucial decisions, hoping for miraculous healings, or pleading for the salvation of family members and friends.

This is a space to allow the Holy Spirit to open our hearts to God’s transforming work by focusing on the needs of others. Praying through the posted requests is a concrete way of loving your neighbor and bearing one another’s burdens. (Mark 12:31; Galatians 6:2)

The Prayer Board is indeed holy ground that can be shared by all those who desire to serve the Lakeside community through intercessory prayer. (You may even want to take a photo of the requests so you can continue praying at home.) May your time in prayer bring you and those you lift up before God’s throne of grace “peace that passes all understanding.” (Philippians 4:7)
(Greg Witt)



Will you allow one of God’s unassuming places here at Lakeside to empower your faith and reach out in prayer to care for your neighbors?



*“Intercessory prayer is the purifying bath into which the individual
and the fellowship must enter every day.”*
— Dietrich Bonhoeffer, from *Life Together*

PLUG AND PRAY GRID

A visual “how to pray” guide based on The Lord’s Prayer

1- Praise
& Thanksgiving

2- Getting out of God’s way
(trading my vision for God’s)

3- Our Needs &
the Needs of Others

4- Forgiveness

5- More Praise!

PASS IT ON

We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord and his might and the wonders that he has done. (Psalm 78:4)



One of my favorite “thin places” is the historic **HOTEL LAKESIDE**. My first stay there was 30 years ago with my mother and son. What fun we had! We’ve been returning with family every year since. It’s impressive that the hotel is 150 years old! Imagine all the people who have walked the halls and found rest and comfort in those rooms all these years, how I’d love to hear their bygone tales!

Our family finds time to eat together in the Hotel Lakeside Dining Room each year. Four generations sit around those tables and share food, fun, and fellowship. There is such beauty in the multi-generational bonds that are connected through faith.

Another perfect place we love to sit, read, relax, and visit is the hotel porch.

The soothing sounds of the fountain and the pleasant tones of the carillon playing familiar melodies are indeed music for the soul.

Just over the porch rail is the picturesque view of the lake, where one can sense the splendor of God’s magnificent creation. Watching dogs, squirrels, birds, and deer scurry across the lawn is also a joy. Even the skunk who infuses the night air with his tangy musk is all part of God’s grand adventure for us here at Lakeside!

I pray that our lives may truly be witnesses for Christ so we can leave a legacy gift of love and divine connection to our future generations.

(Susan L. Stombaugh)

*Where is your favorite “thin place” for gathering friends and family?
Where do sense God’s presence most keenly?*

OPENNESS TO THE LAKE

“If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.” (Psalm 139:9-10)



Why do we like **gazing out over THE LAKE**? How does the vista of sky and water refresh us? Is it because we somehow feel an innate yearning to open up our interior world in response to the beauty and majesty of God’s creation stretching out before us?

On a clear day, it’s possible to see a long way across the lake, and the expanse draws us in, making room for us to release many of our worries and troubles into the waves. The rest of the world seems to fade as we wait in wonder, and a quiet stillness settles around us.

It’s as if the water is absorbing what we dare to release.

The presence of God blows gently in to nurture and fill us. In this moment of repose, we are reminded that we can tell God anything, and he, in return, invites us to listen to his heart, as well.

*“O Lord, all my longing is known to
you;
my sighing is not hidden from you.”
(Psalm 38:9)*

(Ann B. Schnapp)

*What does God want to reveal to you... what will you dare to release...
in the openness of the lake?*

AT EVERY TURN

“Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!” (Psalm 150:1-2)



Whenever I visit Lakeside, regardless of the season, I encounter “thin spaces” at every turn. Whether I’m walking the quiet streets on a cool autumn evening or jostling through summer crowds, the sacred underpinnings of this place are evident. God’s magnificence permeates every layer of this sacred square mile.

The CARILLON, housed in the dockside PAVILION, is a special “thin place” for me. The chiming hymns bring my soul comfort.

My ordinary day is transformed into the extraordinary as the *musica divina* transports me into a quiet space filled with God’s love.

There are genuinely many profound spaces here at Lakeside that God inhabits in a unique way. It is as if God is saying to us, “I am here for you, come, experience my glory, even if it is just for a little while here on earth.”
(Lynne Gallison)

During your time here at Lakeside, how can you become more open to allowing God access to all the seasons and layers of your life?



*"The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision."
— Helen Keller, from *The Open Door* (1957)*

LACE UP!

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105)

Amidst the buzz of sports, shopping, and education that Lakeside offers, there is a unique spot that beckons me toward a path of wholeness.

The Beautiful Mile is my “thin place” for finding peace and space for contemplation. Along this pathway are flowers erupting in color among rock gardens, waves splashing, stone sculptures defying gravity, and benches summoning me to rest and reflect.

Passersby smiled and greeted me as I ambled, and I often wished more of the world had a Lakeside mindset. Some folks walk this lovely path for fitness, some stroll with friends merely to be outside and moving, but for me, the path is my companion both day... and night.

In the darkness, I become keenly aware of the lampposts that illuminate my way with just enough light to mark the nocturnal undulation of the waves, and to catch the moonlight shimmering across the water like dancing diamonds.

Some nights, when I’m alone on the path, I **find my way down to the BEACH** and pour out my heart to God. I remember one summer night in particular, as I gazed up at the stars over the lake, I cried out from the depths of my being to my Heavenly Parent, “I hope you can see me among all this beauty and serenity. I feel like I was led here to be with you!”

Although Lakeside is absolutely my “go-to” place for fun and entertainment, my soul also finds its fulfillment in the Beautiful Mile. Won’t you lace up your shoes and walk with me? *(Susan Leffard)*



As you walk beneath the lampposts along the lakefront, perhaps stop beneath a few of them to pour out your heart to God, who sees and love you.

THE THREE “R’S”

“Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!” (Psalm 150:1-2)

We are invited to rest, reflect, and renew throughout the Bible.

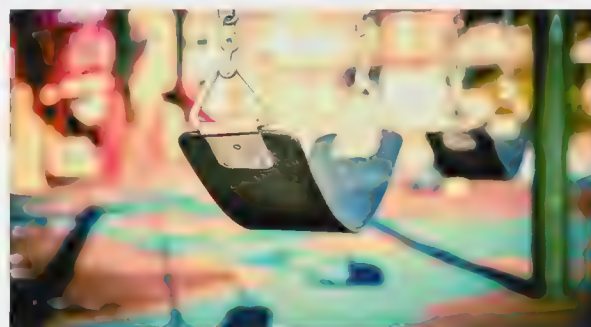
- In Matthew 11:28, Jesus beckons us: “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you **rest**.”
- In Daniel 9:13, we are warned not to neglect “**reflecting** on [God’s] fidelity.”
- In Romans 12:2, Paul writes, “...be transformed by the **renewing** of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

At Lakeside, **BETTINGER PARK** is a perfect place to see these ‘three R’s’ in action. For over a hundred years, this space has provided an opportunity for the community to gather, where young and old alike can come for rest, reflection, and renewal.

On any given day, you may observe children scrambling up the slide at the playground, competitors enjoying a round of shuffleboard or pickleball, worshippers communing with the Creator at the Steele Memorial Bandstand, and seniors relaxing on a park bench. Occasionally, you may even catch a glimpse of anxious mini-golfers aiming for that elusive hole-in-one!

So, the next time you stroll through Bettinger Park, take time to **rest** in the presence of Jesus, **reflect** on God’s faithfulness, and **renew** your mind through the transforming work available to us in the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

(Herb Bradford)



*It's important to carve out time to personally “rest, reflect and renew”
your body, mind and soul.*



“Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes... including you.”
– Anne Lamott

STILL WALKING

*“For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest you shall be saved;
in quietness and in trust shall be your strength...” (Isaiah 30:15)*



Every summer, Lakeside affords us many ways to enrich our mind, body, and spirit and gives us time to catch up with family and friends. Over the years, I've always enjoyed introducing friends who have never been to Lakeside to come and explore its wonders.

When seeing Lakeside through fresh eyes, I'm reminded of how grateful I am to those who came before us, planted and watered, and had the vision to make Lakeside the place it is today. Hopefully, we will continue to be good stewards so that future generations may also come to know the beauty and renewing strength one can find here.

Walk down by THE LAKE early one morning, before you get involved in the day's activities, and take in the view. In the stillness, listen for the sound of the water lapping upon the shoreline. That sound never fails to remind me of the verse from Psalm 46:10a, "Be still and know that I am God." No matter what might be going on in your life or what is going on in our world, what a comfort to be still for a few moments and remind ourselves that God is always there for us. Amidst all the wonderful activities that Lakeside offers, don't forget to take some time for quiet reflection and remind yourself that God is with you both now and forevermore.

(Rev. Martha Maxham)

*As you take in the natural beauty of Lakeside,
what comes to mind as you reflect upon how God is with you today?*



Christians have used labyrinths for spiritual practice since at least 324 AD, when a mosaic labyrinth was installed in the Basilica of St. Reparatus in Algeria. By the Middle Ages, labyrinths like the famous one at Chartres Cathedral became symbolic pilgrimage paths, offering a spiritual journey to those unable to travel to Jerusalem. Unlike mazes, labyrinths have a single path that leads to the center and back out, encouraging prayer, reflection, and inner stillness. Today, they remain a sacred tool for Christians seeking to slow down, listen for God, and embody faith through movement. You may wish to “walk” the labyrinth in the photo above from Iona, Scotland by tracing the path with your finger. As you make a turn along the path, pause for a moment and offer a short prayer of thanks, “I am thankful for...” More resources for labyrinth walking may be found here:

<https://bit.ly/LabyrinthLSKD>

BREAD OF HEAVEN

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.” (Matthew 5:6)



I came to Lakeside on the edge of exhaustion, weary of work and daily life. I longed for the space, the refreshment I knew I could find at Lakeside.

In the early morning, I took a walk by THE LAKE. The north wind was unusually chilly, and my morning coffee did little to warm my bones. My prayers were just wandering words. The Lakeside I knew, where generations had prayed and given their lives to Christ, seemed to have moved to some distant shore. Clouds hid the sunrise with just a few glimmers of light peeking through. I paused and sat awhile. Birds began to sing, and an eagle soared above me. Had they always been there?

As I settled into the moment, the sun began to dissipate the clouds, and the words of Rev. William Nast--a Lakesider from long ago--began to drift into my thoughts. (He, too, had struggled to find God even in sacred spaces, and he had looked on longingly as others celebrated the works of God.) William heard these words: “Is there not enough bread in thy Father’s house?” He fell to his knees and prayed, simply, “Yes, Lord, there is enough!” His doubts faded, and he lived the rest of his life embracing this beautiful revelation from God. His experience reminds us that God is indeed present among us, even when the Divine seems elusive and hidden. “Help me, O God, to be attuned to your presence!”

(Dave Boling)

What is the “bread of heaven” you long for?

BENCHED

“You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.” (Psalm 139:2)

Being benched during a sporting event is often perceived negatively and is usually the result of an athlete's subpar performance. At Lakeside, being benched is, for me, a positive thing because it means I have found a spot to sit, observe, ponder, pray, and acknowledge my many blessings.

One of my most memorable “benchings” happened during a recent 4th of July. I was sitting near the “Our Blue Heaven” cottage, enjoying the festivities with my family and friends. It was such a great experience watching the huge American flag march down the parade route!

Another poignant bench memory happened during an early morning stroll along the pier. I found myself sitting near a father teaching his son how to fish. What a precious moment! The sound of the waves, the friendly chatter of people around me, and the slight fishy aroma lingering in the air all made my senses come alive!

Peering up at the cross on top of the flagpole at the end of the pier caused me to reflect on the spiritual depth of this incredible and caring community.

My favorite bench is located along the lakefront's “BEAUTIFUL MILE.” From my preferred perch, I can drink in the beauty of God's creation and truly sense the divine presence in my treasured “thin place.” The flora, the tranquil lake waters, and the rock designs make my heart happy! In that sacred spot, I can feel safe and release my stress.

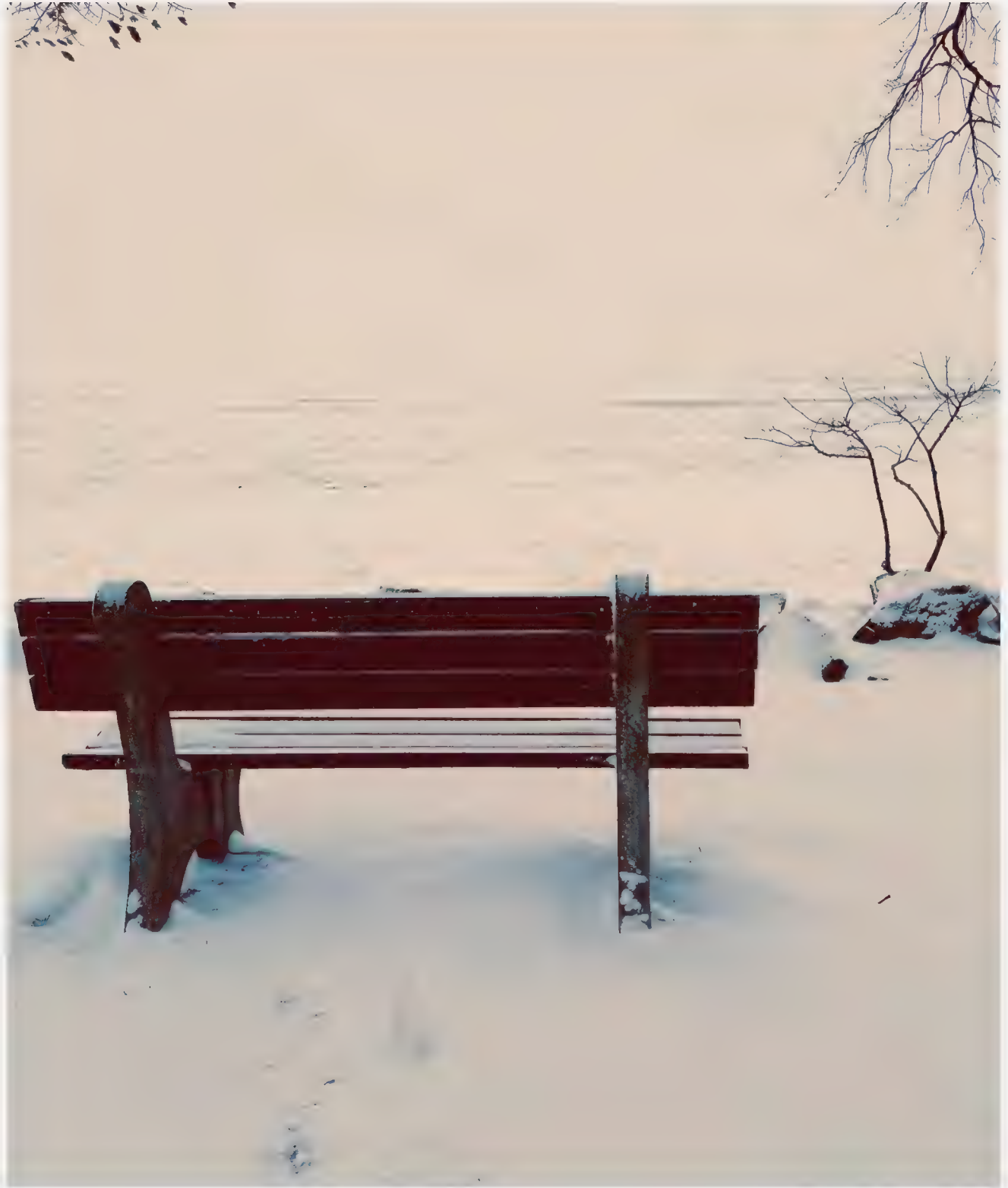
I sincerely pray I may have many more opportunities to create good “benchy” memories here at Lakeside.

Where is your favorite bench?

(Carolyn Hadley)



*Where will you go to sit and take in the beauty of Lakeside?
What is God whispering to you on the wind?
God's invitation to sit with him is waiting on a bench near you.*



“Each of us needs to withdraw from the cares which will not withdraw from us. We need hours of aimless wandering or spates of time sitting on park benches, observing the mysterious world of ants and the canopy of treetops.”

*— Maya Angelou, from **Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now***

BUCKEYES WIDE OPEN

"Iron sharpens iron, and one person sharpens the wits of another." (Proverbs 27:17)



My first visit to Lakeside was in September of 2020. A childhood friend invited us, “the Buckeye Girls,” for a long weekend. Our friend’s verbal description of this place’s beauty and peaceful atmosphere could not prepare us for what we would experience. Of course, we enjoyed all that Lakeside had to offer, but the real gift was an opportunity to reconnect more deeply. As we cooked, line-danced, crafted, and shared, something magical happened. We found that our childhood bonds were strengthened and our spiritual eyes were opened wider.

So now, if you happen to wander down near the lake on a mid-September morning here in Lakeside, you may find me sitting near the corner of **CHERRY AVE & 2nd**. I will be the one sipping a piping hot cup of coffee in my pajamas with my hands lifted high, unashamedly worshipping our Creator. As the sun rises and the wind splashes the waves against the rocks, I will be thanking God for creating lifelong friendships and all the beautiful things around me.

(Shelley E. Huff)

*In which relationships do you see God shine brightest?
For whom are you thankful? Why?*



*"There is a kind of invisible thread between the eye and the world—
like a window that opens inward and outward."
— John O'Donohue from *Beauty: The Invisible Embrace**

QUIET LEGACIES

“I consider the days of old and remember the years of long ago.” (Psalm 77:5)



THE MEMORIAL GARDEN, featuring meandering paths, contemplative sculptures, and a refreshing fountain on the east end of Lakeside, quietly offers an invitation to wander among the whispers of faithful legacies. The names on the plaques aren't just a roster of those who have gone before. They mark the lives that shaped this place, people who prayed, served, sacrificed, laughed, sang, and returned year after year. Their stories are deeply woven into the Lakeside tapestry.

The Garden also invites honest reflection; a place to think about how we spend our lives, what we hold dear, and what we hope to leave behind.

It honors the faithful choices of well-lived lives that didn't necessarily make the headlines, but nonetheless shaped this community over time. It reminds us that a good life is not always a prominent one, but a rooted one: grounded in love, steadied by patience and faith, and open to joy.

In this Garden, encouragement doesn't arise from audible words, but from a tangible sense of hope carried aloft by the gentle breeze of the Holy Spirit that has blown across the generations. We remember and are thankful. May we choose to live lives that, one day, someone else will give thanks for. *(Staff)*

Whose quiet legacy has shaped you—and how might your life quietly shape someone else's?

POOLSIDE REVELATION

“God turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water.” (Psalm 107:35)

I did not expect the crowded **POOL** on a summer day to become a “thin place.” Of all the holy places at Lakeside, this was not, I thought, one of them!

I love the Lakeside summer wonderland. I enjoy the sounds of play and the buoyant energy that fills the parks, lakefront, and downtown. I also cherish the peace and calm of the charming neighborhoods, and it does my heart good to see young families, groups of laughing teens, and contented seniors who have created a place for the generations to experience joy, rest, and a sense of belonging.

I am genuinely thankful for the sacred gift of family, and I was blessed to grow up in a loving one. However, I have no children, let alone grandchildren, and I’ve had bouts of regret and longing for what I feel I may have missed.

At that moment, poolside on a glorious, sunny day, I felt dejected and was experiencing an intense wave of *ennui*. Then ever so gently, these words from Psalm 23 drifted into my head, “*For thou art with me.*”

In an instant, my thoughts shifted from self-pity to contemplating the reality of God’s presence with me. No matter how few or how many family members I have, I was reminded that there is one Person who will be with me all the days of my earthly life and will walk with me into eternity, where I will dwell with the family of God forever!

(Arlene Sikorski)



In what unexpected places has the Lord met you?



“Lighthouses don’t go running all over an island looking for boats to save; they just stand there shining.”
— Anne Lamott, from *Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith* (1999)

STILLNESS AMONG THE TREES

“My beloved speaks and says to me: ‘Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away...’ (Song of Songs 2:10)”



There’s something deeply peaceful about stepping into the **CHAPEL IN THE WOODS**. Just past the South Gate, this quiet outdoor space doesn’t need walls or a roof to feel sacred. The trees stretch upward like spires, and the rustle of leaves is its own kind of hymn. It’s a place that seems to ask nothing—there is only the silent invitation to slow down and breathe.

Jesus often slipped away to quiet places to pray (Luke 5:16), and whether you venture out early in the morning with coffee in hand or stumble upon it on a late afternoon walk, something is healing about simply being still. No microphones. No screens. Just birdsong, sunlight, and space to meet God.

There’s no need to bring the right words or to cue the right lighting. Show up just as you are. Let the quiet speak. In a world that moves fast and demands much, the Chapel in the Woods offers a sacred pause—a reminder that God is present not just in the grand or dramatic, but also in the small and simple. *(Staff)*



What parts of your inner world remain unheard in the noise of daily living, and how might your time at Lakeside be an invitation to put those parts into conversation with God?

Your voice matters. Submit a devotional for consideration for inclusion in the **SUMMER 2026 SOULITUDE** devotional magazine.

Submission link: <https://bit.ly/SOULITUDEDEV>

Deadline: February 2, 2026



For 152 years, Lakesiders have been planting seeds of generosity. When our community gives of their time, talent and treasure, these seeds are watered to grow and multiply each year, blooming to create the vibrant, enriching Chautauqua experience we cherish.

Giving link: <https://bit.ly/LKSDGIVE>



“Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.”
(Matthew 6:6, MSG)

SOULITUDE

Summer 2025

my favorite memory this season was...



bookmark ↗

*“Creativity is a way of keeping the creator alive, of keeping alive in us the image of God.”
— Madeleine L'Engle, from **Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art**, (1980)*

BREATHE.

LISTEN.

HOPE.

LEVEL UP your Lakeside experience
through gracious stories for sacred spaces.

